

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/660,934

Examiner

DILEK B. COBANOGLU

Applicant(s)

STREEPY, LARRY V.

Art Unit

3626

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/13/2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 31-43,46-48 and 51.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/8/2009.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/D. B. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 3626

/C. Luke Gilligan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3626

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

This communication is in response to the continued examination request with amendments received on 8/13/2009. Claims 31-43, 46-48 and 51 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steven P. Wigmore on 9/8/2009.

During the interview conducted on 9/8/2009 between the Examiner and the attorney on the record, Mr. Wigmore, the application has been amended as follow:

Please amend claims 31, 41 and 46 as follows:

At lines 20-21 of claim 31, please amend:

...displaying a medical code adjacent to the billing code in the second window with the display device, the ~~billing~~ medical code comprising an alphanumeric string originating from a second medical source that is different from the first medical source and is associated with the selected medical concept; ~~and~~

At lines 24-26 of claim 31, lines 22-24 of claim 41 and lines 21-23 of claim 46, please amend:

receiving input comprising alphanumeric text through a third window on the display device ~~for one of~~ ; and

modifying, removing or creating relationships between said medical concepts.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-10, 12-13, 16-18 and 21 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance of these claims is the inclusion of the limitations, in all of the claims which is not found in the prior art references, of displaying a first image in a first window with the display device comprising an alphanumeric string representing the selected medical concept; displaying one or more second images with the display device and along one or more respective geometrical rays originating from a central region of the first image, each second image comprising an alphanumeric string representing a parent concept of the selected medical concept and displaying a first symbol on the display device along each respective geometrical ray originating from the central region of the first image; displaying a billing code comprising an alphanumeric string in a second window adjacent to the first window with the display device, the billing code originating from a first medical source associated with the selected medical concept; displaying a medical code adjacent to the billing code in the second window with the display device, the medical code comprising an alphanumeric string originating from a second medical source that is different from the first medical source and is associated with the selected medical concept; receiving input comprising alphanumeric

text through a third window on the display device; and modifying, removing or creating relationships between said medical concepts.

The prior art teach:

System and method for correlating medical procedures and medical billing codes, US 5325293 A, Dorne;

Methods for graphically representing web sites and hierarchical node structures, US 6237006 B1, Weinberg;

Multi-user system for creating and maintaining a medical-decision-making knowledge base, US 6353817 B1, Jacobs et al.;

System for converting medical information into representative abbreviated codes with correction capability, US 5809476 A, Ryan;

Knowledge pattern integration system, US 20020091680 A1, Hatzis et al.;

System and method for providing an object-oriented interface to a relational database, US 6490581 B1, Neshatfar et al.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DILEK B. COBANOGLU whose telephone number is (571)272-8295. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher L. Gilligan can be reached on 571-272-6770. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. B. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 3626
9/8/2009

/C. Luke Gilligan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3626